

**Developmental Disabilities Council Minutes  
Courtyard Marriott, Federal Way  
March 21, 2008**

Present

George Adams, Brenda Anderson, Amber Blevins, Harriette Bryant, Robert Doyle, Leo Finnegan, Lori Flood, Vickie Foster, Stanley Fukui, Larry Garman, Mike Hatch, Becky Lasky, Shawn Latham, John Lemus, Sara McQueed, Laquitajoy Pendergrass, Leandro Razo, Janet Adams (DDD), Sherrie Brown (UCEDD), Tonya Middling (OSPI), Mark Stroh (DRW), David Kludt (MHD), Carole McRae (HRSA), Kelly Boston (DVR), Carol Miller (DOH)

Guests

Ryan Warner (WSDOT-ACCT), Julianne Moore, Sandy Latham

Absent

George Walker (chair), Suzanne Gries, Alicia McRae, Shannon Patton, Marijo Olson (CTED), Patty McDonald (ADSA), Michelle Bogart (DSHS)

Staff

Ed Holen, Sieng Bonham, Brian Dahl, Autumn Dryden, Jodi Honeysett, David Maltman, Donna Patrick, Eva Rooks, Linda Walling

Call to Order/Introductions

Shawn (vice chair) called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Approval of January Minutes

**Motion: Council approve the January 2008 minutes as written. Sara moved and John seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chair's Remarks

Shawn thanked Donna, David, Ed, and the rest of the staff and the Council for all the hard work they did during the legislative session. Some highlights of the session include passing the Disability History Month bill, The ADA Coordinator bill, and the DD Land Trust bill. These bills will go a long way toward helping people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Executive Director's Report

Ed asked everyone to remember to complete the Executive Director's evaluation and to turn it into Autumn.

He thanked everyone for their participation during the podcast filming on 3/20/08. The podcasts will be used for Council member recruitment and will be posted online for everyone to view. The Council will also make them available at the May meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report are now available in paper format and online. Ed expressed his thanks to Eva and Jodi for all their hard work on this project.

Informing Families/Building Trust (IFBT) flyers are available. Ed encouraged members to take flyers and pass them on to anyone in the DD community who may find the information beneficial. The information can also be located online at [www.informingfamilies.org](http://www.informingfamilies.org).

Ed showed a PowerPoint presentation on the 2008 Legislative Wrap-Up. He expressed his thanks to Donna and David for their long hours of work this session. Handouts summarizing what was accomplished were distributed to the Council. An additional handout outlining the interim activities that will lead into the next legislative session was also distributed.

## Workgroup and Committee Reports

### Self-Determination and Individual Development Workgroup

Shawn reported that the workgroup:

- Held a joint meeting with the Community Development Workgroup
- Saw presentations by Washington Association of Student Councils (WASC) and Athletes for Kids
- Worked with the Community Development Workgroup on a decision package to promote inclusion
- Put together a decision package around transportation to be presented at the May Council meeting

### Community Development Workgroup

Stan reported that the workgroup:

- Held a joint meeting with the Self-Determination and Individual Development Workgroup
- Saw presentations by Washington Association of Student Councils (WASC) and Athletes for Kids
- Worked with the Self-Determination and Individual Development workgroup on a decision package to promote inclusion
- Heard a presentation by Laird Harris of Harris & Smith
- Discussed strategies to disburse housing information throughout the state

### Systems Issues Workgroup

Harriett reported that the workgroup:

- Heard a presentation by Pat Brown (UW), "Meeting the Need"
- Heard a presentation by Debbie Couch and Kristi Seligman (DDD), "Respite Care"
- Voted on a decision package that would extend/improve the existing Advocacy and SAIL contracts
- Expects to have a presentation on juvenile justice at the July meeting

### Public Policy Committee

Leo reported that the committee:

- Reviewed the legislative session
- Received an update on federal issues and learned which WA legislators are on which federal committees
- Reviewed a draft policy regarding children in institutions
- Received a copy of surveys comparing public attitude toward developmental disabilities over the years
- Discussed interim legislative issues to work on for next year
- Discussed a grant that's available to help people receive training and supplies to prepare for an emergency

### Governance Committee

Sara reported that the committee:

- Discussed the upcoming change in the Council's Designated State Agency (DSA)
- Discussed the need for a revised Executive Order to change the Council's DSA
- Reviewed the new policy regarding parents with developmental disabilities

**Motion: The Committee moved that the Council approve the Policy #116: Rights and Supports of Parents Who Have a Developmental Disability.**

**Vote: In Favor- 20 Oppose- 0 Abstain- 5; the motion carried**

### Membership Committee

Larry reported that the committee:

- Is sending letters to Council member employers and faculty to encourage allowing members to participate in the Council

- Reviewed letters that will be sent to Council applicants who are not selected
- Selected the interview panel for the next round of Council member interviews
- Reminded everyone that on 5/15 in Wenatchee the committee will be holding a town hall meeting
- Will look at the Individual Development Plan process at the July meeting

Agency Reports
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#### Department of Social & Health Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

Janet provided information on the two grants from CMS that DDD is currently working on. One is a Person Centered Planning grant that pilots additional work with the community in three counties and the other is the Roads to Community Living grant that helps move people from Residential Habilitation Centers (RHCs) when they want to move. The DDC is engaged in that project and doing the follow-along surveying that is required. Janet also announced that the roll out of the Case Management Information System would occur at the end of the month and it is intended to assist case managers in managing their case loads. She handed out a report on supported employment benefits and an alert on traffic safety. Janet distributed additional state budget information including more information about the Intensive Behavior Support Waiver that the legislature directed DDD to write.

#### Disability Rights Washington

Mark Stroh stated that he is on the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Council that was created in 2007. The Council is meeting monthly and they now have a toll free number (877-TBI-1766) and website ([www.tbiwashington.org](http://www.tbiwashington.org)) where people can obtain more information.

#### University Center (UCEDD)

Sherri distributed the UCEDD Clinical Services Annual Report for 2007 that describes the clinical services provided for individuals with disabilities (including developmental disabilities) and their families.

#### Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Tonya Middling reported that school districts are required to submit annual reports to OSPI on the 20 performance indicators as set by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) within the U.S. Department of Education. The indicators look at whether school districts are progressing towards targets set by the state. These reports are also used to identify districts in need of technical assistance, targeted assistance, or focused assistance as determined through the State Monitoring System. It was found

that 26 districts need to do further self-study, determine an action plan, and warrant a site visit.

- The State Board of Education recently released the new state mathematics standards at the same time the National Mathematics Review Panel released its final recommendations. OSPI has mobilized a cadre of trainers to deliver statewide training on changes to the mathematics standards.
- The legislature provided additional funding for the State Safety Net, a program to assist children whose education needs meet the definition of "high cost."
- Washington is implementing a new model called, "Response to Intervention (RTI)." This model is currently voluntary, and 55 schools from 24 school districts are participating in a pilot. RTI is aimed at closing the achievement gap among at-risk students for both academic and behavior related concerns.
- The Mental Health Transformation Grant is finished and training is taking place across the state through the Educational Service Districts.

#### Department of Health (DOH)

Carol Miller reported the following:

- The Department of Health has posted its assessment report, "The Health of Washington State," on its website. It assesses health status and related topics that are important to the Washington State Department of Health's mission of protecting and improving health in Washington. For the first time the report includes a chapter entitled "People with Disabilities," and is available at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/HWS/doc/GHS/GHS-PWD2007.pdf>.
- The federal government is in the process of releasing grant opportunities tied to the Combating Autism Act of 2005. DOH is waiting for federal guidelines to come out in the next few weeks for grant money to develop a state autism plan. DOH is well positioned for one of 5 grants.
- The Autism Task Force is working on the Washington State Autism Guidebook, due out June 30, 2008. It will be used as a resource directory for parents, organizations, and providers serving individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and families as they struggle to maneuver systems and find services. Aspects covered include education, medicine, definitions, family-centered care, transition, employment, advocacy, and professional and community development related to training.

#### Department of Social & Health Services - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Kelly Boston reported that DVR did not have any legislative requests this session. One minor deduction to their budget was made as a technical correction. DVR has adequate funds to serve everyone who is eligible and expects to be able to serve everyone eligible through the remainder of the biennium and beyond. DVR is beginning to resume outreach in some communities and is developing three DVDs that will be available for dissemination. One DVD will target employers, one will target clients, and

one will target employees. DVR hopes to have the DVDs completed and available for distribution by the June DD Conference in Ellensburg. Kelly will also bring copies to the DD Council meetings for interested members.

DVR has contracted with two organizations to:

- Provide training to DD employment specialists employed by community rehabilitation programs
- Replicate an employment specialist certificate program at Highline Community College in two more colleges in different geographic areas
- Provide technical assistance and program development expertise to employers/providers seeking to implement a Project SEARCH model employment program

DVR will be placing Vocation Rehabilitation (VR) Specialists in 12 Worksource Centers this year to assist individuals with disabilities who are DVR clients to use the resources of the Center and access job opportunities.

#### Department of Social & Health Services - Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA)

Carole McRae reported that beginning July 1, 2009 the income standard for adult medical programs will increase to 80% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This change helps many who currently may not qualify for medical coverage under the Categorically Needy program.

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) income standard has been increased by 3% and will allow a few more adults into the program.

They are beginning to terminate adults from Medicaid for no verification of US citizenship, but will not be terminating children pending further direction. HRSA hopes to have direction by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2008.

#### Department of Social & Health Services - Mental Health Division (MHD)

David Kludt reported that the Office of Consumer Affairs is sponsoring disability forums in Olympia. The schedule of speakers will be available shortly.

At the June Behavioral Health Conference, an award will be given to honor someone who has worked in the field of services for people with disabilities.

David is on a workgroup through HRSA that is looking at emergency room usage by certain populations of people (those with mental health concerns, developmental disability, etc.). It appears as though a small population of people utilize a large portion of emergency room services. The group is open to having Council representation.

With that the meeting was adjourned.